

# SONIC THE HEDGEHOG SEASON 3



## CHAPTER 2



So...this is the place.  
This is where I sensed all that power  
coming from.



No more time to  
wait around and observe...  
I have to find out what they know...

...and if I'm too late  
already...



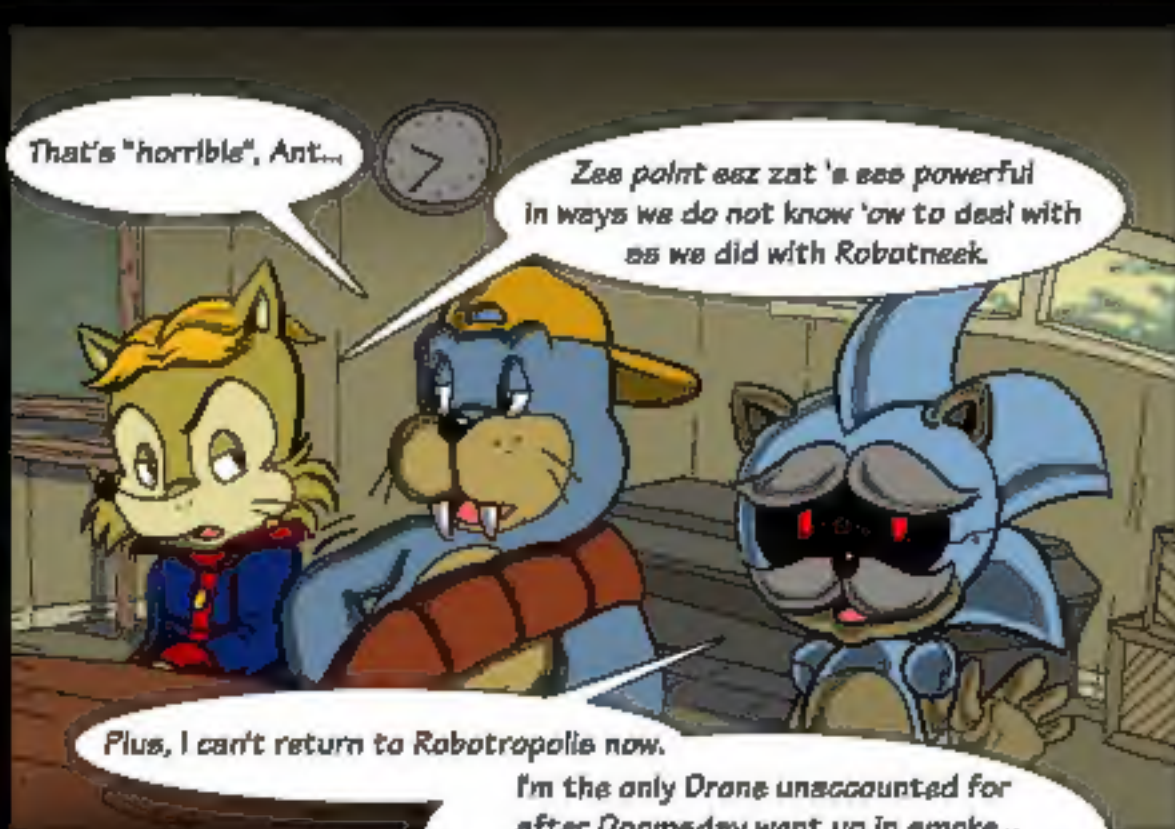






Right! It isn't that simple, Sonic.  
Naugus was someone who even  
Robotnik was scared of, after all...

Oui...zis Naugus,  
from what I am told,  
he is a hairyfull fiend...



That's "horrible", Ant...

Zee point esz zat 'e esz powerful  
in ways we do not know 'ow to deal with  
as we did with Robotneek.

Plus, I can't return to Robotropolis now.

I'm the only Drone unaccounted for  
after Doomsday went up in smoke...  
he'd figure out I was a Spy in a heartbeat.

SO?

OK, fine, we're startin' at a disadvantage,  
but that's never stopped us before!



I've tangled with Horn-Head twice now  
'n' walked away just fine, 'n' we didn't have  
Unc spying for us when we started  
this whole mess anyway!



We know all that, Sonic!  
And we know we can't  
sit around and wait forever.

But Antoine is right:  
this isn't the same fight we had with Robotnik!  
And that means we need to  
approach it more carefully than before!

C'mon, you two;  
whatever the solution to this problem is,  
we all know it isn't fighting with each other.



...Right.



Still...that does beg th' question:  
what in the hoo-haw're we s'posed t'do now?





The only thing we can do!

If the problem is we don't know enough 'bout Naugus, then we just gotta try 'n' find out more!

A comic panel featuring Tails, the two-tailed fox. He is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right with a determined expression. His mouth is open as if he is speaking. A large speech bubble originates from him, containing the text: "The only thing we can do!  
If the problem is we don't know  
enough 'bout Naugus, then we just gotta  
try 'n' find out more!" The background is a simple, dark interior with some shelves visible.

The only thing we can do!

If the problem is we don't know  
enough 'bout Naugus, then we just gotta  
try 'n' find out more!

Right, Tails.

Heh heh...  
I smell a mission brewin', Sell

Don't get too excited, Sonic.  
I still stand by what I said before...

Heh heh...  
I smell a mission brewin', Sell

Don't get too excited, Sonic.  
I still stand by what I said before...

Heh heh...  
I smell a mission brewin', Sell

Don't get too excited, Sonic.  
I still stand by what I said before...





We'll keep it basic for now,  
a Recon Mission with a five-man team.  
Sound good?

Alright then. In that case...



I'm one of those five,  
right, Aunt Sally?



I mean...it was my idea.

Sorta.

'Course it was, Big Guy,  
'n' that's why you're absolutely comin' with.



Isn't that right, Sal?



**AWESOME!**

I won't let you guys down,  
I promise!



We know ya won't, kiddo.  
Now get gain', you've got a lotta  
prep to do for the Big Mission!

Bir, yee airt!





Bunnie and Antoine should come too.  
Rotor will stay here with Sir Charles and hold down the fort.

Out of course, my Princess.

Could use some exercise...

OK, Sally.

Plan's all set, group's all set.

Once we get a new Power Ring,  
we'll be good t'go!



He'll be fine, Sal. I promise.

I'm holding you to that, Sonic.  
If anything happens to him...



It won't.

Tails ain't a little kid anymore, Sal,  
he can do this.

After all, he learned from th' best.



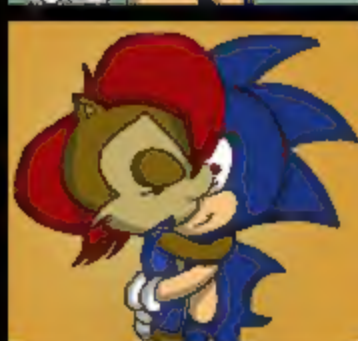
Thanks. But...

I'm trusting you on this, Sonic.

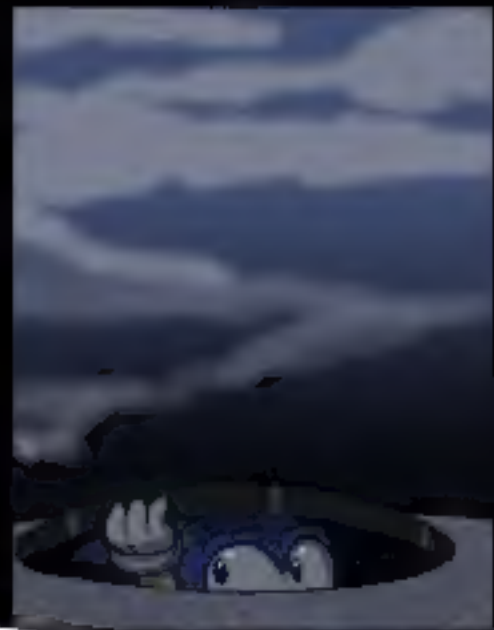
Don't let me down.



I'm a 'hog of my word, Sal.  
Come SWATBats or sneaky spells,  
I won't let Tails get hurt.







Coast's clear, guys.



We'll split into teams, get a full feel of what Snivley's done with the city, then rendezvous outside the Citadel in ninety minutes.

Bunnie, you're with me, we'll head to the West side. Tails, Sonic, and Antoine will head East. We'll rendezvous back here in one hour.



Remember, keep in contact and stay alert. Naugus' magic can sneak up on you, so you have to pay attention.

OK...Ready?

Ready 'n' Steady!

Let's do it to it!



Them again...interesting...





Man, Snivley fixed this place up quick.



Well, 'a does 'ave zee magic touch on 'is side now...



Nah, I don't think Naugus' magic works like that.



'Sides, I think I heard that Crabby creep say he ain't as powerful in our universe last time I saw him...



Whoa there, Big Guy, don't go floatin' away on us, we need ya down here!



I think I spotted somethin'.



Somethin'...weird.

Yeah? Gimme a lift 'n' let me see.



Gotcha, Sonic!



You...you are leaving me 'ere alone?



Don't worry, Ant, we'll only be gone a few seconds...



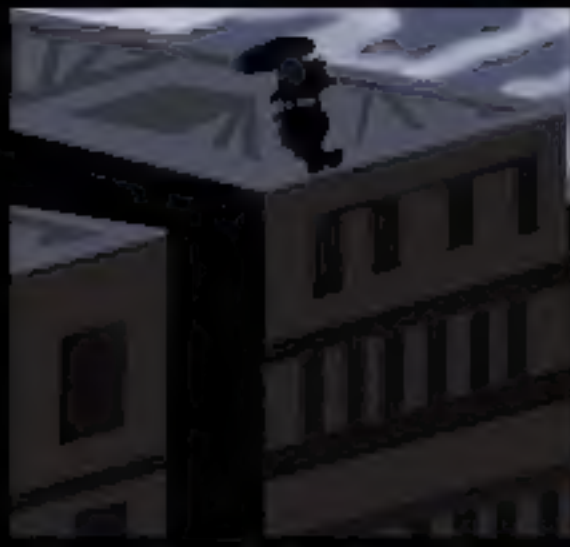
...I think.



You ZINK? Zet is not...







Me either...

There...that's what I saw!

Never...never seen a machine  
like that in Robotropolis before...!

Hey, don't poop yourself out, kiddo,  
you can take us back down;  
I've seen what  
I need to see.



EEEEEE!!!

whump



Whoa, WHOA!  
At ease there, soldier-boy.



My apologies...  
I am, 'ow you say, a bit lumpy?

Normally, I'd correct you 'n' say "lumpy", but honestly?  
Can't say you're wrong this time.



Hmph!  
So...what did you find?



Somethin' that don't belong.  
We'd better check it out.

OK, just...  
just gimme a sec first, OK?



Hm hm hm...see, Naugus?

Now that Juilar's robots have been reprogrammed to obey me, things are running along quite smoothly!

Maybe now you'll acknowledge my technological prowess, eh?

Tch...they're *more* than capable, the question is whether *you* have your facts straight about these...

what did you call them again?

Chaos Emeralds.

Primordial relics said to harness the power of the very Universe... I learned of them while researching the Void.

I've no interest in giving your wind-up toys much mind, Snivley, *especially* not before they've shown they're capable of achieving our goals.

How much did you learn?

Enough...

...though I admit, specific information on them was scarce.

Most of what I found came from the myths of long-dead cultures, the Mandarria in particular, and they all spoke of the Emeralds with reverent caution.

Supposedly, the seven Emeralds, scattered across the planet, are physical manifestations of the wild Elements that form our world—fire, water, wind, rock, forest, light, and darkness—that, when gathered together, can bend the very fabric of reality.

Whoever controls all Seven, then, would have potentially *unlimited* power...

Something a man of your...  
heh heh... *prestige*...  
could most certainly find useful.

At the very least, it would solve your Rodent problem, eh?



True, true...

And even if the Emeralds do prove to be only a Fairy Tale, I'm sure we can find other uses for our new Scanning Apparatus.

I still say you should let me use my Magic to track them instead...

Yes, well, you're not the one in charge, are you?

After all, if it can pick up sources of concentrated energy like your supposed Emeralds, it could also track those blasted Gold Rings the Hedgehog is so fond of.

My Apparatus is far more reliable than any silly spell, and once we create a mobilized version... hm hm...the possibilities will be endless.

Of course, using a Scanner of that magnitude will put a strain on the City's Power Grid...

... but it will be more than worth it if it means stamping out those verminous Freedom Fighters once and for all.

It would seem our new Project has attracted the attention of a certain Blue Pest...

I suppose you want me to take care of them?

Tch! After your miserable failure last time? Go, but take a Mech-Walker team with you.

I'll order a squad to rendezvous with you at the Apparatus.





What d'you think it is?

And what do you zink it is being for?

Dunno...but I'm gonna find out.  
You two stay here,  
I'm gonna move in closer



No way you go in alone, Sonic! Lemme come too!

At ze very least, contact ze Preencess  
and Madememoiselle Rabbit!  
Perhaps reinforcements...?

Not a chance!

Only reason Needlenose would put something like  
that in the middle of the city is if it's really important,  
'n' that means...



BLAM



...trouble!

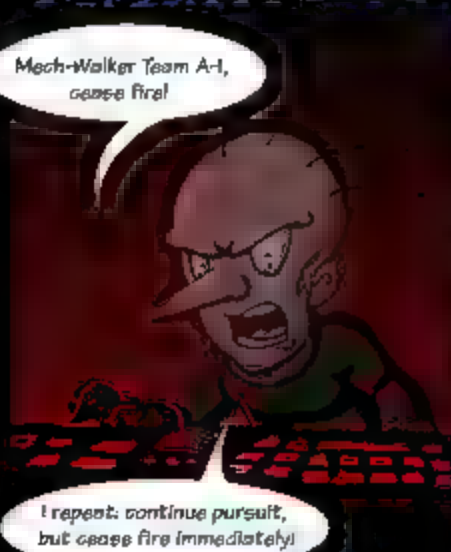
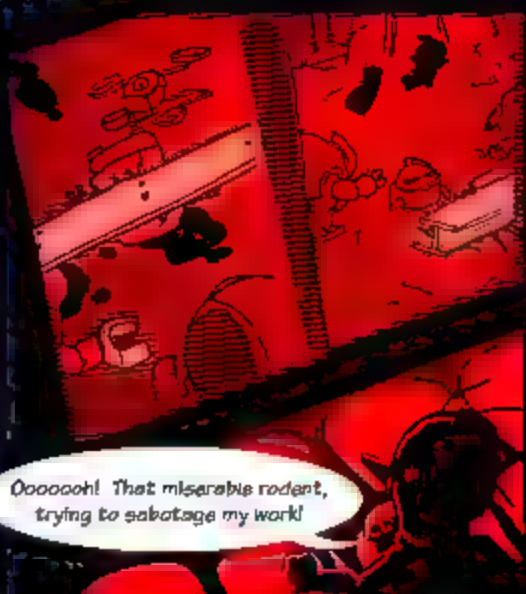
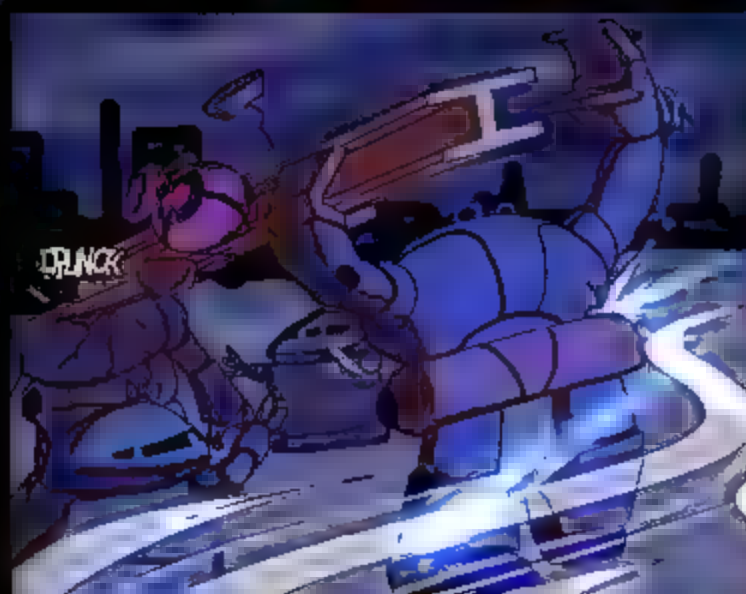
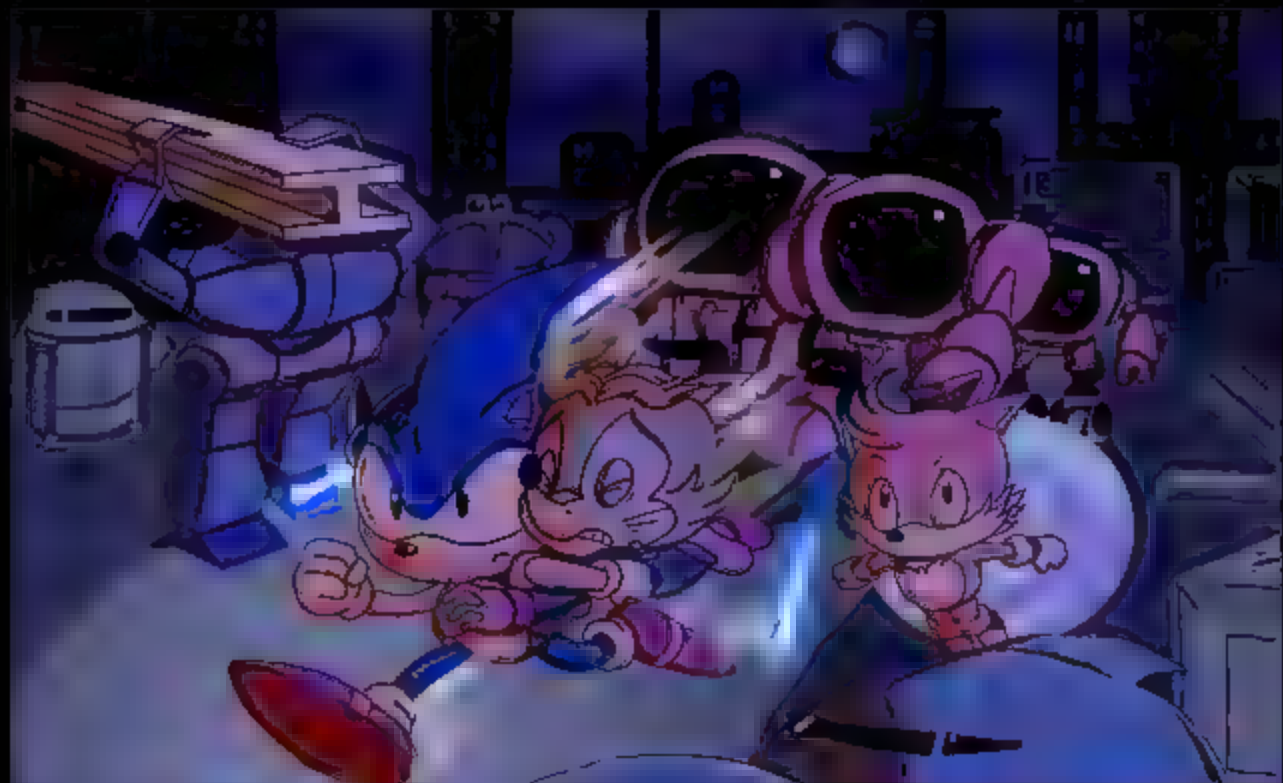


You fuel!

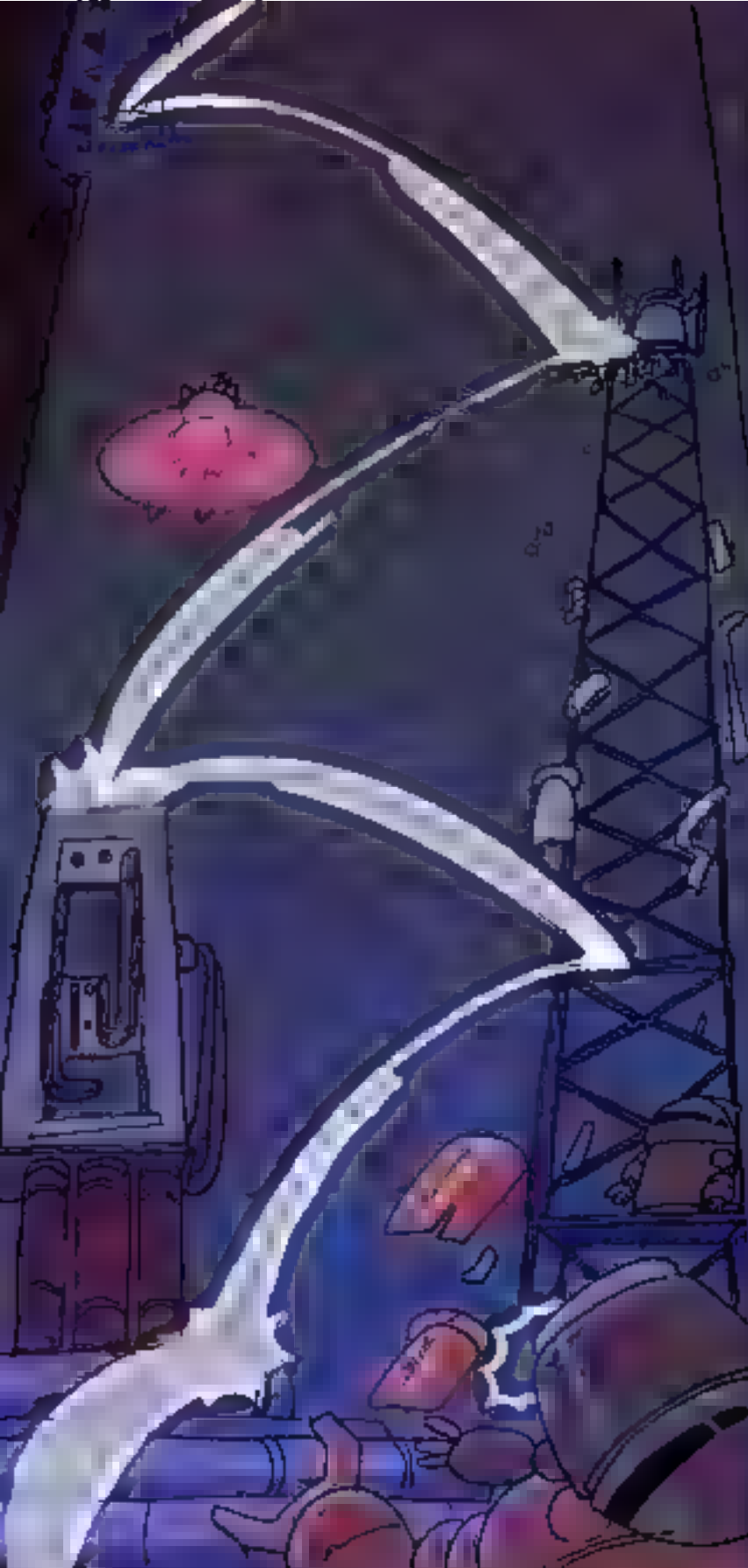
What do you zink you are doing?  
You are eading toward more danger!

Keep your goo, Ant,  
I know what I'm doin'!









...We 'ave stopped moving.  
It is safe to open my eyes?

You scared of heights?

nod

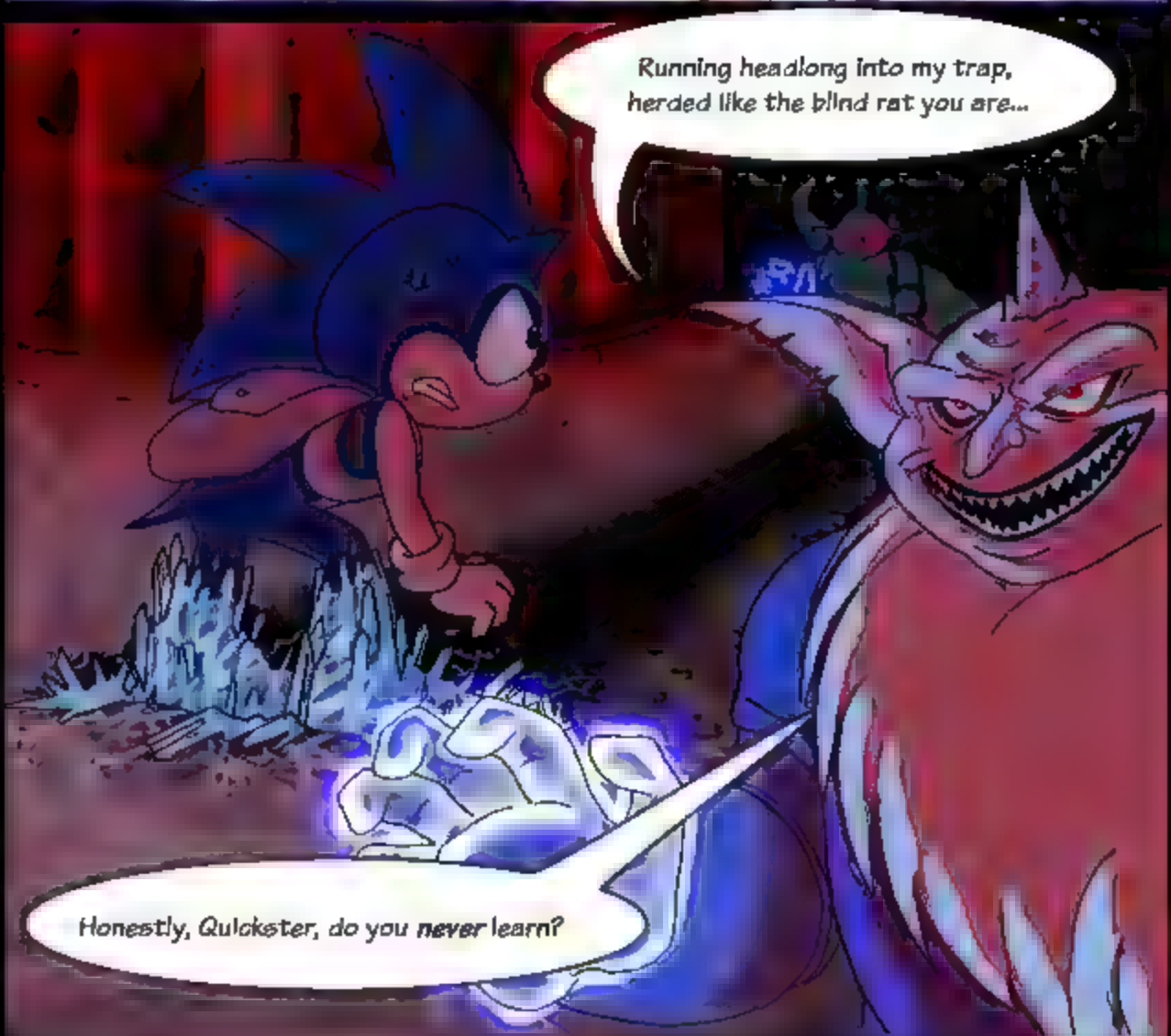
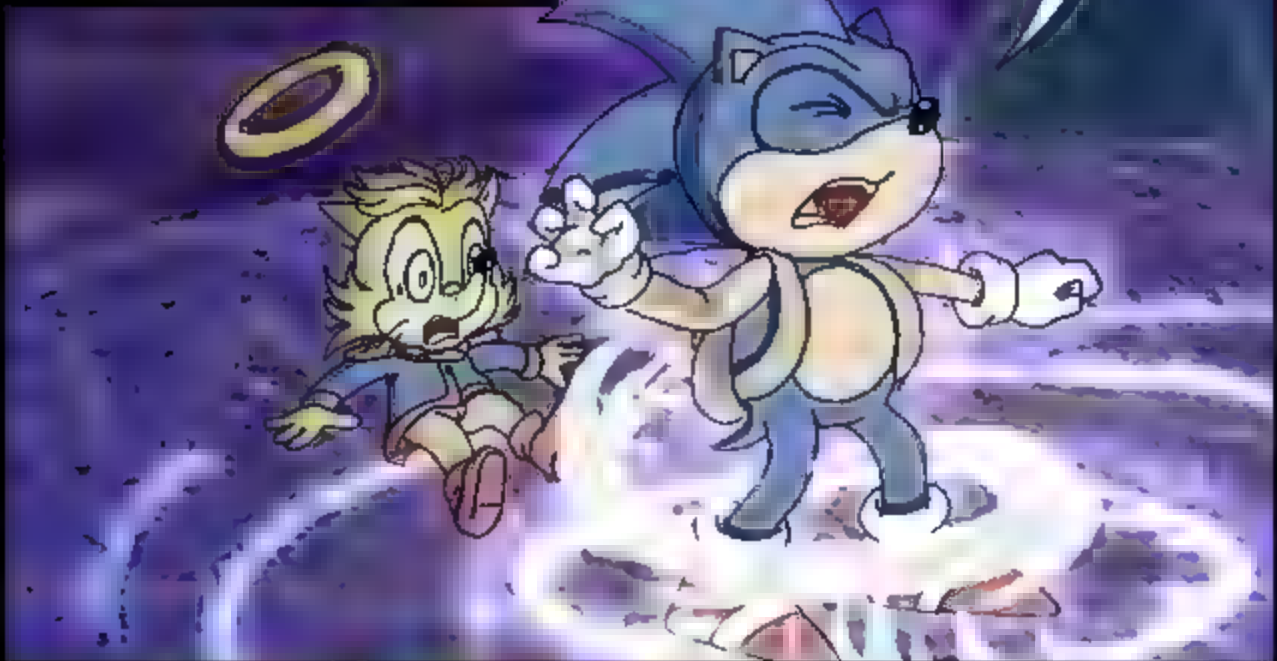
THUNK

Then no.

Heights are the least  
of your worries, Quikster!

Crud...!





Running headlong into my trap,  
herded like the blind rat you are...

Honestly, Quikster, do you *never* learn?



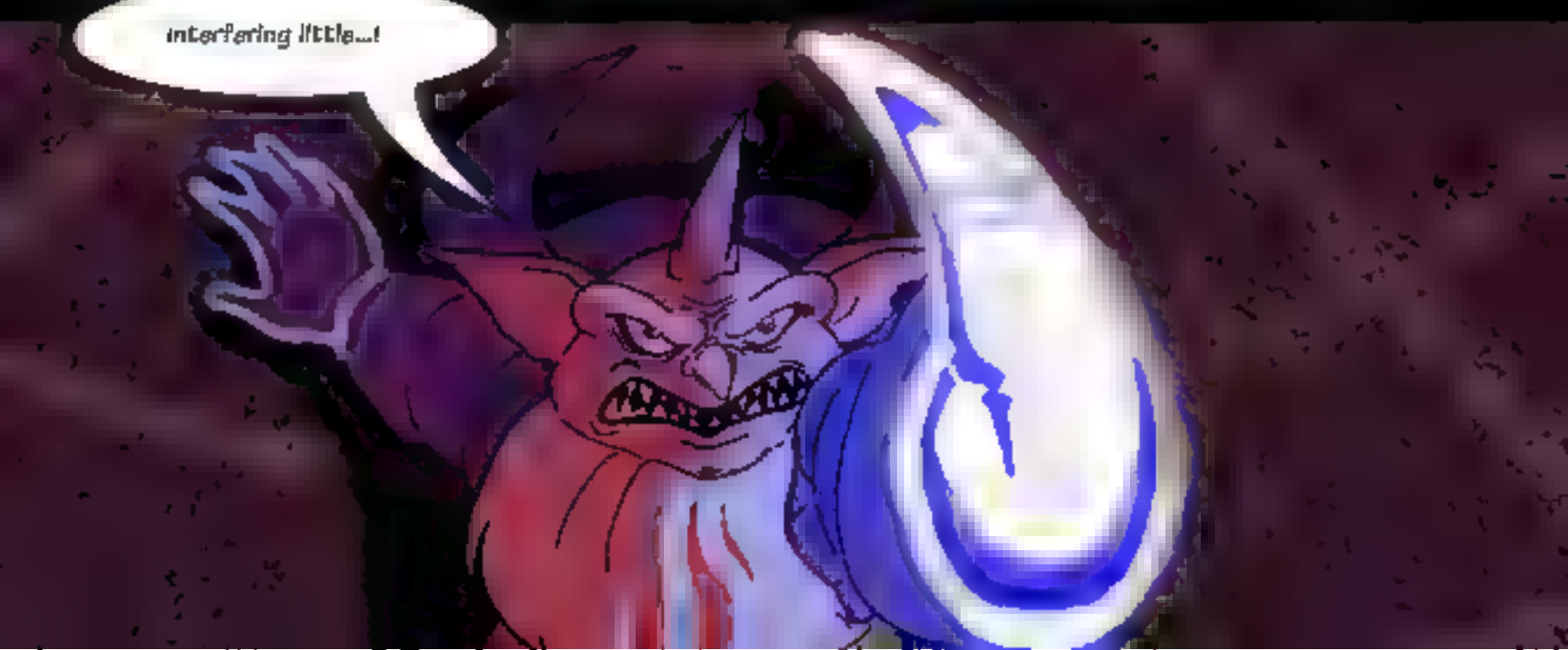
Don't make fun 'o' my noggin when you're the guy whose Boss got it into his head to put *this* eye-sore in his own city.

A minor complaint compared to the reward we stand to reap...

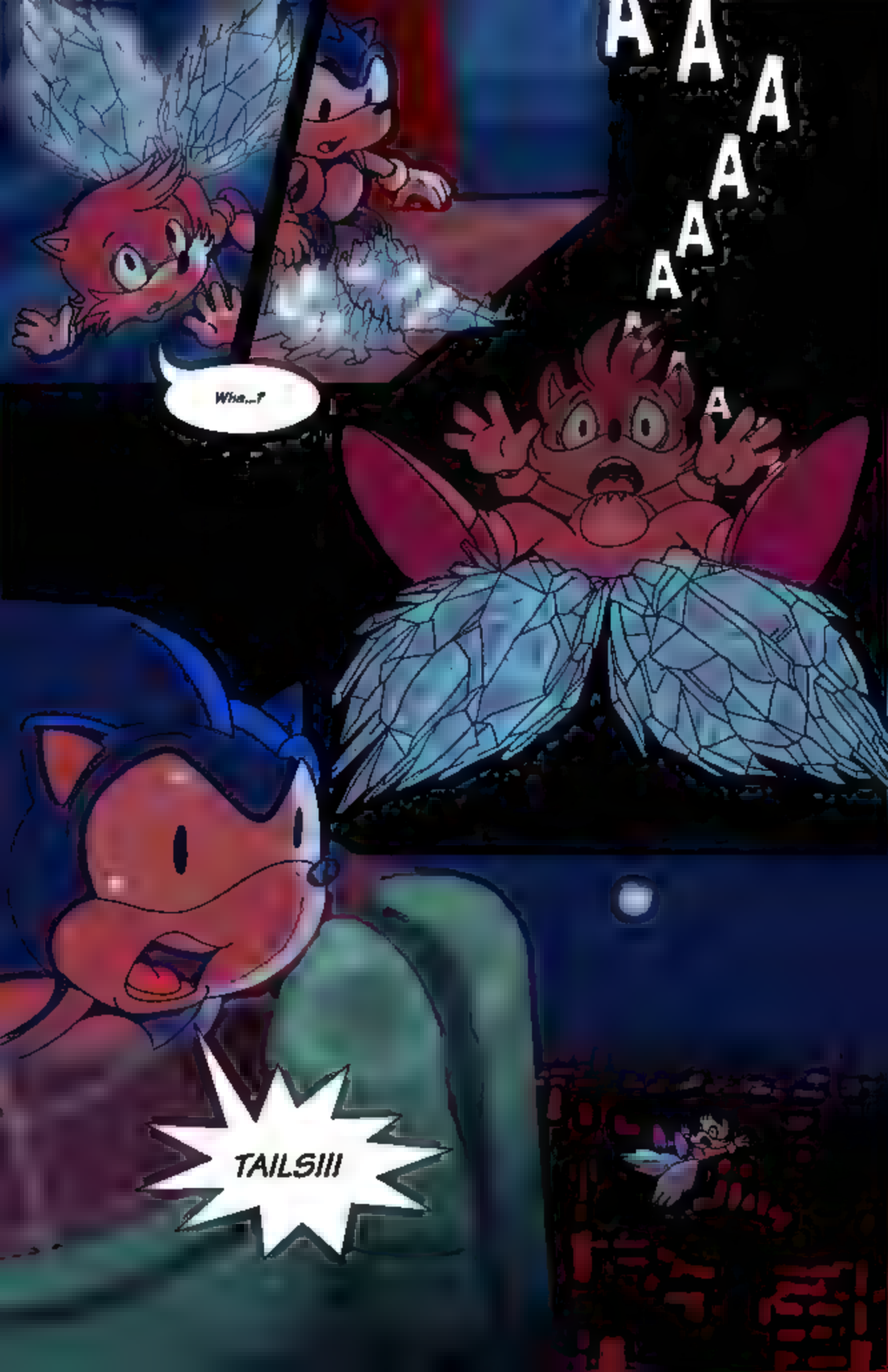
And that'd be...?

You'll never know.







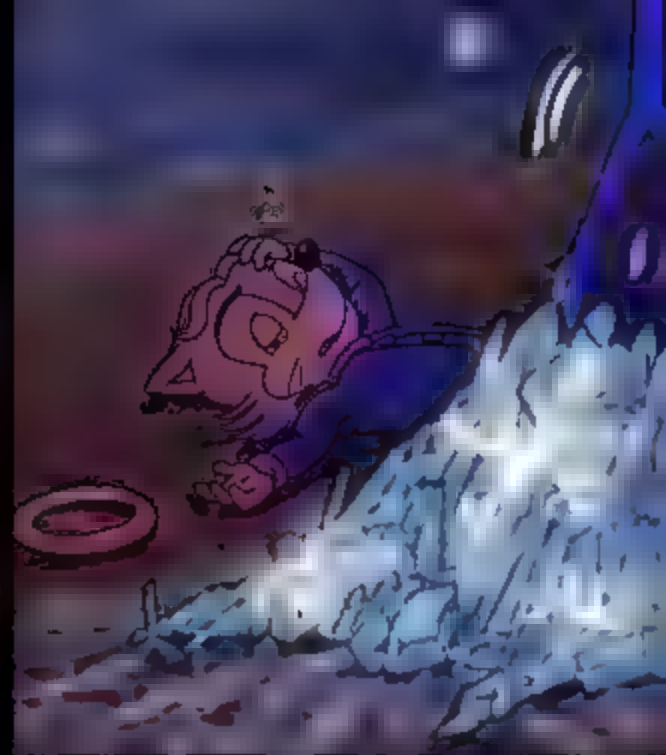


AAA  
AAA  
AAA  
AAA  
AAA

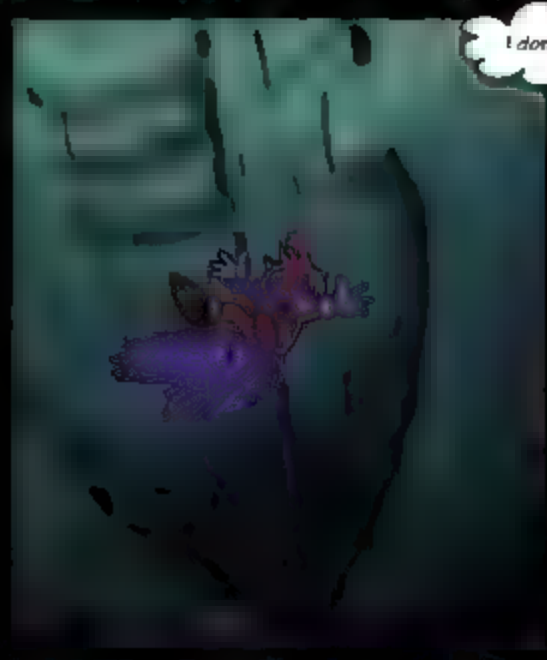
Who...?

TAILS!!!







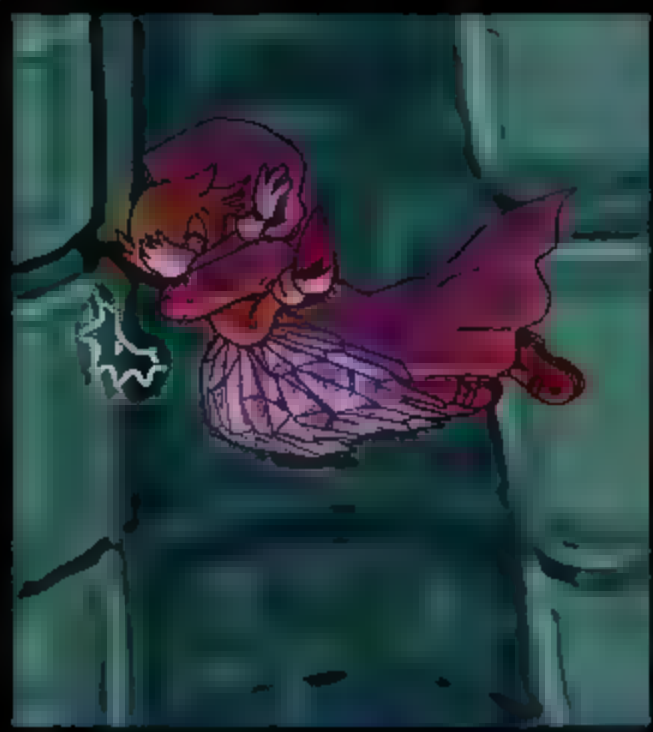


I don't wanna die!



Sonic...  
Amy...  
everyone...

I let you all down...

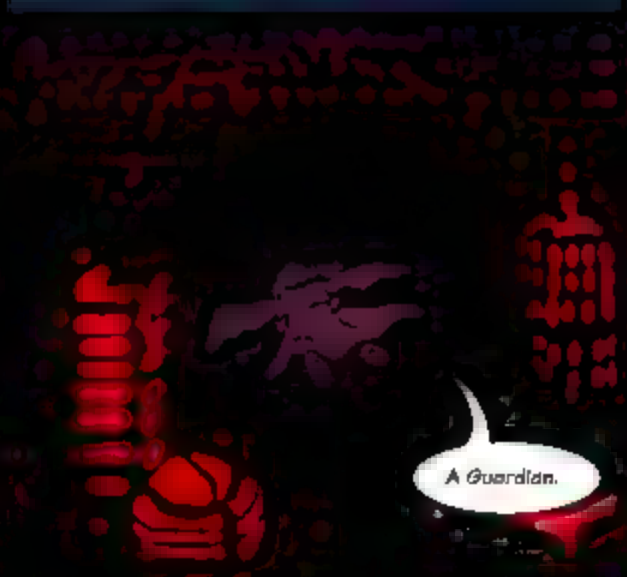


WHAT THE...??

Calm yourself.  
You are safe now.

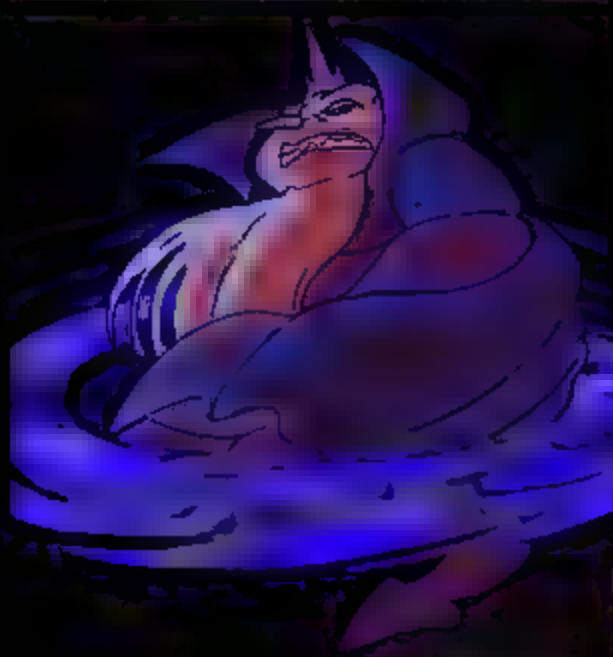
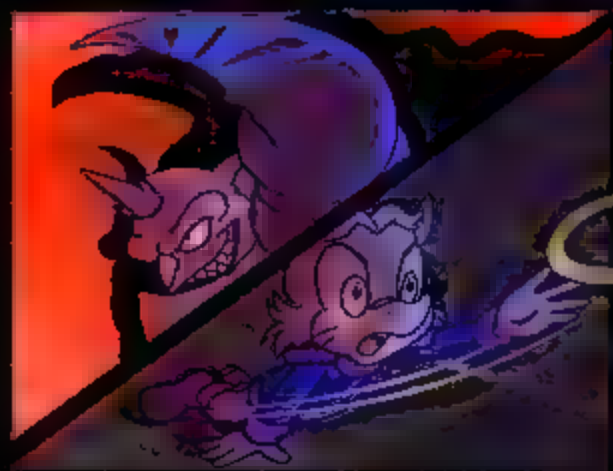


Who...are you...?



A Guardian.





Miserable mechanized monstrosities!  
The Hedgehog's already escaped,  
you slow-moving scrap piles!

**RRAGH!!!**

**SMASH**

Still, scrap *does* have its uses...

Come on, come on!  
He had to have  
pulled up somehow...

*Nobody's mourning  
anyone yet, Anti!*

I second that!

Zonic, while I too am  
in ze mourning of Tails,  
zis is not a safe place  
to be doing it in!

Of course I am!

You didn't really think  
I'd go down ~~that~~ easy, did ya?

**TAILS!**  
**YOU'RE OK!!!**

Who's your new friend?

Not for a minute, bud.



It's OK, Sonic, he's on *our* side!

Well, I *think* he's on our side...

I believe there is much we need to discuss.  
However, it will have to wait...

Why is zat?

Aw man, doesn't  
this creep *ever* give up?

I am zinking now is ze time  
to be beating a nasty retreat, oui?

*slgh*

For once, Ant? You're right.  
We gotta contact Sal 'n' Bunnie  
'n' get outta here...

And you?

I will come with you for as long as you will let me. We still need to talk.

Follow me, you two! Ant, drop Sal 'n' Bunnie a line, tell 'em to get to the Rendezvous Point 'n' fast!

TEEEAAAAAGH!

Blasted vermin, escaped again...

Naugus! Come in, Naugus!

I read you, Snivley...

Did you catch the Freedom Fighters?

No...

Very disappointing, Naugus...but at least you kept those rodents away from my Apparatus.

Perhaps now my drones can finish their work uninterrupted.


There is one other thing, Snivley...

What? What?


There was someone else with them...

someone different...




A panel showing Sonic and Tails standing in a dark, rocky area. Sonic is on the right, looking towards the left. Tails is on the left, looking towards Sonic.


C'mon, c'mon...it's been almost fifteen minutes, Sal 'n' Bunnie shoulda been here by now...!

A close-up of Tails speaking to Sonic.

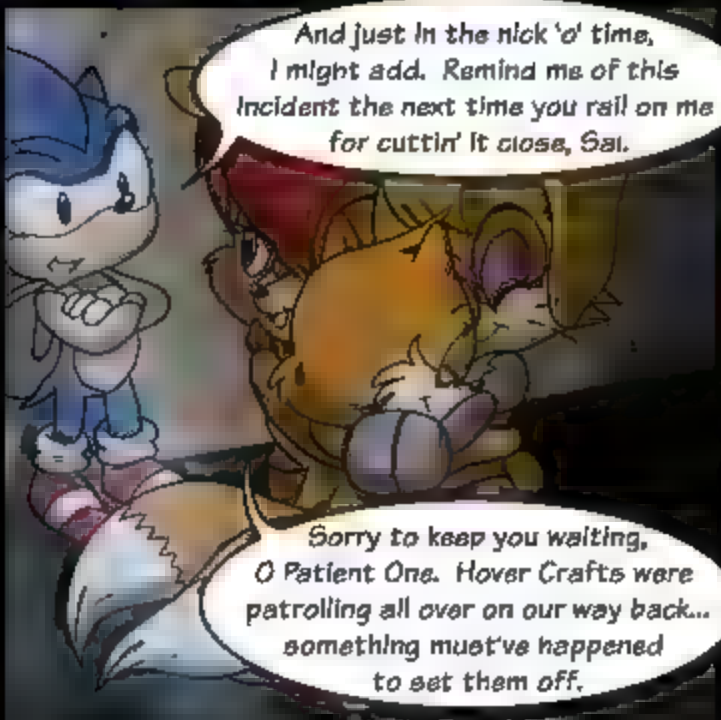
They're...they're OK, Sonic...I know they are...

A close-up of Tails speaking to Sonic.

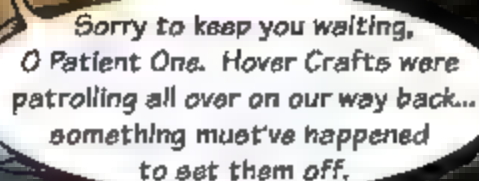
That's some good intuition ya got there, Sugah-Fox!

A close-up of Tails speaking to Sal and Bunnie.


Aunt Sally!  
Aunt Bunnie!  
Ya made it!

A panel showing Sonic and Tails talking to Sal and Bunnie. Sonic is on the left, and Tails is on the right. Sal and Bunnie are in the background.

And just in the nick 'o' time, I might add. Remind me of this incident the next time you rail on me for cuttin' it close, Sai.

A close-up of Tails speaking to Sonic.


Sorry to keep you waiting, O Patient One. Hover Crafts were patrolling all over on our way back... something must've happened to set them off.

A panel showing Sonic and Tails talking to Sal and Bunnie. Sonic is on the left, and Tails is on the right. Sal and Bunnie are in the background.

If by "something", you mean us.

A close-up of Tails speaking to Sonic.

What happened, Sonic?

A panel showing Sonic and Tails talking to Sal and Bunnie. Sonic is on the left, and Tails is on the right. Sal and Bunnie are in the background.

It's a long story, but we've got someone here who wants to talk...

Who in the heck're you?

A Guardian.

He said that to me too..

Tell me...

you..

and you..

...you two have been in contact with a strong source of great power recently, haven't you?

Yes...but how did you know, and why are you interested?

I have a...Sixth Sense...for such things. As for my "Interest"...that is rather complicated.

Try us, Mr. Mystery.

That's easier said than done... neither of us knows the other very well, so you will understand if there is some information I do not yet wish to reveal.

However, what I can say is this: whatever power you invoked, doing so has consequences further reaching than you may realize.

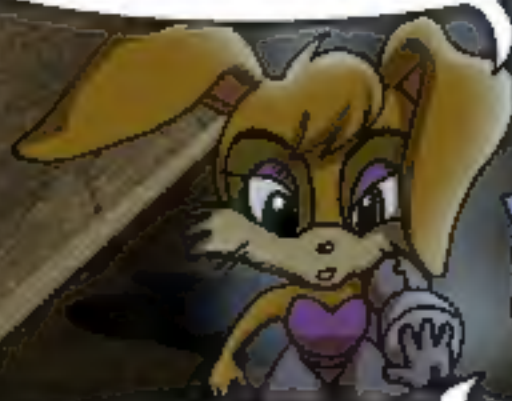
It is of the utmost importance you understand that truth. That is why I came here to this city: to give you this, so you might better understand.

Thank you...

Keep it safe, and read it with an open mind.



Whoa there, L'il Grey Ridin' Hood,  
just where d'you think you're goin'?



Yeah, that wasn't exactly the most  
informative Q 'n' A we've ever had. There's  
still a lot we wanna know.

All you need to know at  
the moment is on that scroll. It is  
likely we will meet again, but for  
now, I must leave...

there are other  
matters I must attend to...

Hold up, Sugah-Hog, ah wanna  
follow him too, but we ain't got time fer  
chasin' shadows right now.



Bunnie's right. We'd better get  
back to Knothole quickly so we can  
examine this scroll and you can fill us in  
on just what happened.



Out...I can not wait for  
zis day to be over...











I honor those who came before me.

I have been to the surface, Father,  
and my fears have been confirmed.

The powers of Chaos have  
been invoked by those below, and now I  
suspect evil eyes have begun trying to  
seek out more ways to use it.

I have yet to fully determine  
who my allies and enemies truly are in  
this fight, but we will see in time.

This...is only the beginning.







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What do they put in those Chilli Dogs?

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG  
SEASON  
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